Proposal to set up LNG plant at Gopalpur, Orissa

107. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to set up a mega Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) plant at Gopalpur in Orissa has been pending with Government;

(b) whether the LNG plant is proposed to be set up by the Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa (IPICOL) in collaboration with AL-MANHAL of United Arab Emirates (UAE);

(c) if so, at what stage the proposal is pending; and

(d) the steps taken to clear the above proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation Limited—an Undertaking of the State Govt. of Orissa with Al-Manhal International Group of Abu Dhabi on December 7, 1997 to set up Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) regasification terminal of 5 Million Tonne Per Annum (MMTPA) capacity near Gopalpur Port in Orissa. Import of LNG is on Open General Licence.